

DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 347 011

RC 018 642

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TITLE Rural Poverty in America.
SPONS AGENCY Aspen Inst., Durham, NH. Rural Economic Policy Program.; Ford Foundation, New York, N.Y.
REPORT NO ISBN-0-86569-014-6
PUB DATE 92
NOTE 324p.; Foreword by Susan E. Sechler.
AVAILABLE FROM Auburn House, 88 Post Road West, Westport, CT 06881 (paperback: ISBN-0-86569-014-6, \$22.95; hardback: ISBN-0-86569-013-8).
PUB TYPE Books (010) -- Collected Works - General (020)
EDRS PRICE Document Not Available from EDRS.
DESCRIPTORS Political Influences; Poverty; *Poverty Areas; *Public Policy; Quality of Life; *Rural Areas; *Rural Development; *Rural Economics; Rural Education; *Rural Sociology; Social Influences; Socioeconomic Influences

ABSTRACT

This book consists of 13 essays discussing rural poverty in the United States, including historical and current conditions of rural poverty, underlying the social, economic, and political factors, and policy implications. The book is organized into three parts. Part 1 consists of four essays that provide a comprehensive description of the poverty conditions in rural America and an analysis of underlying economical and social dynamics. Low wages, the character of rural labor markets, and chronic inter-generational poverty are examined. Part 2 consists of six essays which look at the condition of particular groups suffering poverty in rural areas. These include African-Americans, Appalachians, migrant workers, and Native Americans. This section also addresses the special problems of those who reside in relatively prosperous rural areas (Northeast and Midwest) but live at or below poverty level. Part 3 includes three essays that review successful lessons from the past and evaluate current steps that will mitigate present stress, foster improved opportunities, and improve quality of life for the rural poor. Also included are a list of references and information about the editor and contributors of the book. This book includes 34 tables, 15 figures, and 4 maps. (LP)

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